

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**McMenamins Appeals Inclusion of Crystal Ballroom in City of Portland's Unreinforced Masonry Database**

*- Music Venue is Seismic Design Code-Compliant -*

Portland, Ore., Feb. 1, 2019 -- McMenamins announced today that it is petitioning the City of Portland Bureau of Development Services to have the Crystal Ballroom removed from the City's unreinforced masonry (URM) database because it has undergone a complete seismic update in compliance with the City Code Section 24.85.06 for existing buildings.

"Since purchasing the building in 1996, we have voluntarily been making upgrades beyond what was required. The City of Portland asked that we make certain upgrades, which we did, following a ten-year plan to reinforce the walls. Our permits were completed and approved by the City in 1996 and 2006, demonstrating compliance," said McMenamins Music Director Jimi Biron. "Since the building adheres to the code, it should not be in the database. Nor should a placard be required."

**About McMenamins**

McMenamins operates 55 distinctive pubs, restaurants and historic hotels in the Pacific Northwest. Founded by brothers Mike and Brian McMenamin with a single Portland neighborhood pub in 1983, McMenamins continues to be a family-owned company, operating nine Washington locations and 46 Oregon properties, 19 on the National Register of Historic Places. McMenamins handcrafts its own beer, wine, spirits, cider and coffee and offers an eclectic mix of pubs, hotels, movie theaters, concert venues, spas and events for guests to enjoy. For more information, visit [mcmenamins.com](http://mcmenamins.com).